

Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 FPC-01 SCEM-02 INT-08 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 COME-00 AID-20 CIEP-02 OMB-01 SS-20 TRSE-00

NSC-10 CEA-02 DRC-01 /138 W
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R 131700Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL WINNIPEG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1035

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

UNCLAS WINNIPEG 352

E.9. 11652: NVXA

TAGS: ENRG, CA

SUBJECT: ELECTRIC POWER EXPORTS TO

U.S.

REFERENCE:WINNIPEG'S A828, NOVEMBER 8

QUESTIONED BY REPORTERS ON MANITOBA HYDRO'S PROPOSED LONG
TERM LARGE SCALE ELECTRIC EXPORTS TO U.S. (REF AIRMGRAM) PREMIER
SCHREYER REPLIED:

1. IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE MAXIMIZE EARLIEST POSSIBLE DEVELOPMENT
OF OUR RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES AS SUBSTITUTE FOR OIL AND GAS
SO AS NOT TO "BEGGAR THE NEXT GENERATION".

2. MANITOBA MIGHT SIGN CONTRACT FOR SURPLUS ELECTRICITY EXPORTS TO
U.S. IF NOT NEEDED DOMESTICALLY. BUT N.E.B. MUST ENCOURAGE
CONSTRUCTION OF REMAINING SITES ON NELSON RIVER AS QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE ACCOMPANIED BY BUILDING NATIONAL POWER TRANSMISSION
GRID. "THIS MAKES SENSE TODAY AND WOULD HAVE MADE SENSE 10
YEARS AGO". A CONTRACT FOR SALE OF HYDRO POWER TO U.S. MAY BE
SIGNED WITHIN CALENDAR YEAR BUT HE WANTS FIRST TO KNOW ENERGY
MINISTER MACDONALD'S ATTITUDE "TOWARD EARLIEST AND MAXIMUM
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HARNESSING AND UTILIZATION OF RENEWABLE ENERGY".

3. SAID CANADA'S CONCERN SHOULD BE WITH CURRENT OIL EXPORTS OF NEAR ONE MILLION BARRELS PER DAY TO U.S. AND NOT WITH EXPORT OF ELECTRIC ENERGY WHICH IF NOT EXPORTED WOULD HAVE NO MARKET. HE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND ATTITUDE OF HIS POLITICAL CRITICS WHO ARE NOW OPPOSING ANY INCREASED ELECTRIC SALES TO U.S. HYDRO OFFICIALS HAVE ESTIMATED COST OF HIGH TENSION D.C. LINE TO MINNEAPOLIS AT 200,000,000 DOLLARS. TO BUILD SIMILAR LINE OVER RUGGED TERRAIN TO SOUTHERN ONTARIO WHERE SCHREYER CLAIMS OIL AND GAS ARE BURNED AT "UNCONSCIONABLE RATE" WOULD PROBABLY COST NEAR ONE HALF BILLION.
KELLY

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Message Attributes

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30 JUN 2005

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